

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS19775

Idaho Code 67-5711C currently allows state public works to award contracts to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. To ensure a responsible bidder on certain projects, a "pre-qualification" process is sometimes used. Modeled after the Utah and Florida laws, this legislation is designed to augment those responsibility standards for bidders on state projects when the relevant agency so requests.

All responsibility standards used for pre-qualification must be set forth so that all contractors know what the criteria will be. The additional standards set forth were taken from the standards currently in use in Utah and Florida. It is expected that the relevant agency responsible for the project will set up a review panel of experts to evaluate the compliance with the standards.

This bill also gives the respective state entity responsible for the ultimate use of the project the ability to require pre-qualification of bidders when deemed in the best interests of the state.

The overall purpose is to enhance the quality of work performed throughout the state and ensure that the state is receiving the overall best value for its expenditures.

FISCAL NOTE

No direct impact to the general fund. The bill is designed to increase the overall value the state receives from its expenditures.

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